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## UNESCO director-general presents violent extremism prevention lecture



UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova presents solutions to violent extremism during her speech on April 6 in Guerrieri Academic Commons. Val Petsche photo

By VAL PETSCHÉ  
Staff Writer

Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Irina Bokova spoke at Salisbury University on April 6.

Over 400 students and faculty attended the presentation, which was entitled “Preventing Violent Extremism in the 21st Century.”

This event was organized by Professor Brian Polkinghorn, SU executive director of the Bosserman Center for Conflict Resolution, and Professor Mark

Brennen, the UNESCO chair for Rural Community, Leadership and Youth Development at the Pennsylvania State University.

Bokova discussed solutions for building and sustaining peace, as well as ways of preventing violent extremism by cultivating a generation of

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## No Haters: SU celebrates Stop Hatin’ Week

By SYLLIA NEWSTEAD  
Staff Writer

Salisbury University’s Student Government Association (SGA) hosted Stop Hatin’ Week on April 10 as a way for students to join together.

SGA Vice President Cearrah Sherman explained the initial purpose of this campus event.

“Stop Hatin’ Week was basically started to promote diversity and inclusion by saying stop hatin’ on our differences as far as cultural background to opinions and interests,” Sherman said.

To promote the event, different organizations came out to create a banner for Stop Hatin’ Week on April 6.

Though the banner painting was not in the official week, it helped to prepare for the following events. They are hung up in the middle of The Commons on display.

Each day presented a theme

of unity through different events in which students could participate.

The first day’s event consisted of Family Feud in the Wicomico room; just like the game show with Steve Harvey, students were asked questions about Salisbury University. The first 100 people to attend received a free shirt.

April 11 followed with Tie Dy-versity, where students were able to create their own tie-dye shirts and receive a free “Stop Hatin’” shirt as well.

This activity highlighted the process of adding different colors together to make a beautiful shirt and used this action as a metaphor for different people coming together as one.

Wednesday kicked off the Love is Louder event. Shirts said, “Love is louder than \_\_\_” and student were able to fill in the blank themselves.

Sophomore Ashley Lewis wrote on her shirt that love is louder than hate, saying that “it is better to love one an-

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## Literacy program helps local community

By SAWYER CORNELIUS  
Staff Writer

The crisis of adult illiteracy in the greater Salisbury area now faces a new enemy.

The Project READ program, sponsored by the Wicomico County Public Libraries, aims to decrease the proportion of illiterate adults within the local Salisbury and surrounding communities.

Project READ is a free one-on-one literacy program that assists adults in becoming fluent in basic reading, writing, fundamental mathematics, health and finance.

Wynnette Curtis, coordinator of the libraries’ program, spoke regarding the intentions and goals of the Project READ initiative.

“The adult literacy program is an innovation of one-on-one tutoring in areas of basic writing and math to computer-operation skills,” Curtis said. “[It] is more effective and tailored to individual learning styles



Sawyer Cornelius photo

as opposed to class-like settings.”

The current READ program, launched in September 2016, is the third iteration of several attempts at decreasing the statistic of Salisbury’s illiterate populous.

Past issues pertaining to funding and staffing have made the jumpstarting of READ far from easeful.

This time around, grants have been secured from organizations such as the United Way, Henson Foundation, Friends of the Library and various Salisbury Rotary Clubs to ensure a permanent, more stable duration of the program’s existence.

“In the long-run, we aim to make READ an incorporated service of the

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## LECTURE

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global citizens.

She ultimately sought to provide the tools to overcome the challenges of a conflict-ridden society.

The speech was a part of the "One Person Can Make a Difference" lecture series hosted by the Bosserman Center for Conflict Resolution.

Bokova communicated the dire need for a generation of global citizens that can challenge violent extremists through skills to react to hate speech.

In order to learn such skills, there must be an emphasis on improving literacy, civic engagement and tolerance.

Following an assertion that violent extremists are not born into such positions, but are made, Bokova provided appropriate responses to consider.

"Violent extremists promote fear and division—we must respond with skills, with opportunities for civic engagement, for intercultural dialogue," Bokova said.

Bokova was also awarded the President's Medal by Dr. Janet Dudley-Eshbach, President of Salisbury University.

The director-general was commended by Dr. Dudley-Eshbach for her "lifelong dedication and service to the global community of [UNESCO], and for her major contribution to ensuring that girls have equal access to education."

Bokova is the first woman to lead UNESCO, serving the organization since November 15, 2009. She has been recognized with state distinctions from across the world for her efforts to advance quality education, gender equality and sustainable development for all.

Cody Wehlan, SU graduate assistant for conflict resolution, stood among the audience to ask what people can do in their communities, as well as on the global scale, to create a welcoming atmosphere for people of all cultures and religions.

Wehlan formerly addressed the growing issue of a marginalized youth vulnerable to the influence of organizations with deceptive political agendas such as ISIS and Boko Haram.

"Well, I think the internet gives an enormous opportunity for these platforms. It very much

goes along the lines of diversity and mutual understanding or respect," Bokova said.

One such question asked what gives the director-general hope, which prompted the discussion on the tremendous progress education has made as a major component in today's global political agenda.

"On one side I see a lot of hope for the future, but we have to think deeply in order to tackle some of these situations because hard power is not enough," Bokova said.

The insight continued as Bokova accredited the work of those who are actively involved while also encouraging others to do the same.

"I think there are millions of people who understand what is there. Most importantly, they are committed, they are engaged, they are not bystanders just watching what is happening," Bokova said.



Salisbury University image

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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## LITERACY

Continued from Page 1

library," Curtis said.

The program's qualified and dedicated volunteer literacy coaches provide tutoring sessions twice a week solely for the benefit of serving those less educated.

Coaches range from Wicomico County Health Department employees to local retirees; all of whom sign privacy agreements to secure tutees' confidentiality.

Two Salisbury University faculty members participate in training the program's prospective coaches and even take part in mentoring local illiterate.

Leonard Arvi, Ph.D., a professor of economics and finance at SU, explains his involvement with the program.

"The experience is very fulfilling, and I believe that it is a positive change to which I can help contribute," Arvi said. "I assist in matters of finance; ranging from budgeting, money management, debts and check-cashing locations."

Arvi joined the initiative after attending a city council meeting regarding the high volume of local employment opportunities in comparison to the low supply of qualified workers.

"The Wicomico County libraries announced the project at the meeting," Arvi said. "...and with my experience in teaching money-saving and investment lessons in the past at James M. Bennett High, I decided to help train interested volunteer coaches for the program."

Koomi Kim, Ph.D., a member of SU's May Literacy Center, is also an integral part of the university's contribution to the program at large.

As the host of supportive sessions of READ's numerous tutors often held at the May Center, Kim shared some insight.

"I am very impressed with both the

coordination of the program and motivation of the program's volunteer coaches," Kim said.

The program encourages one-on-one coaching staff from within the community.

The libraries' downtown branch will be hosting an employment readiness seminar on Wednesday, April 26 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 a.m.

More information about Project READ is available at [www.wicomicolibrary.org/project-read](http://www.wicomicolibrary.org/project-read) or 410-749-3612, ext. 159.

a united campus.

Lastly, Friday concluded the week with an African Dancers & Drummers performance in Holloway Hall. The Southeast, Washington D.C. group provided a unique educational experience for Salisbury.

Stop Hatin' Week gave people a "chance to try to come together and try to understand what other people are going through right now, even if they are not directly going through it," Sherman said.

The intention of this week was to

host events where people could relax before Easter and enjoy the spring weather.

"I felt like [SGA] definitely tried their best to get everyone to [go] to them and talk to them about how they felt," Lewis said.

Sherman expressed SGA's vision to help achieve a more unified student body.

"Student Government Association's goal is really to be the liaison between the students and the faculty and the staff," Sherman said.

## The Flyer

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## EDITORIAL

## THE TRUTH ABOUT SAFE SPACES

By LUKE WATHAN  
Staff Writer



The concept of safe spaces on college campuses has been the topic of polarizing discussion in American media and everyday life, with much of the coverage being negative rather than positive. What started off as a means of fostering a more supportive environment on college campuses for LGBTQ students has, in some places, been bastardized into justifying the infantilization of college students and stifling free speech.

At Salisbury University, however, the concept of safe spaces has retained its original and admirable mission of providing a voice to LGBTQ students who feel disregarded or marginalized.

Dr. Diane Illig, a sociology professor at SU and advocate for safe spaces, said that these spaces exist to make LGBTQ students feel safer and more welcome. At SU, the program is still largely a workshop where student and faculty participation is purely voluntary.

"We try to create a campus climate where LGBTQ students feel safe and welcome," Illig said.

The workshop addresses small yet meaningful ways that students can better understand their LGBTQ colleagues. These can be as simple as knowing what pronouns to use or being more careful with word choice, according to Illig.

While traditional media may push a narrative that the very idea of a safe space is infantilizing to impressionable college students, this is not the case at SU. Through the safe space program, students and faculty alike are simply taught how to be more socially conscious in their day-to-

day lives and how they are capable of being either inclusive or ostracizing by things as seemingly trivial as word choice.

This trend towards social consciousness comes in a time where it is more and more important to be aware of how our actions can influence others. In a world where messages are broadcast globally with the swipe of a finger, seemingly innocuous jokes and comments can carry unintended stigmas and insults.

It is because of this that safe spaces are so important. Many do not even realize that they are being offensive or marginalizing with their words or actions and, though the harm that these words cause is often unintentional, it is harmful nonetheless.

While SU is *certainly not* the first, or necessarily the best, at fostering inclusion through its commitment to equality, the steps undertaken by the safe space program and those like it are a grand force for positive change. With the increased support and relevance of LGBTQ rights in the past few years, safe spaces serve as a symbol for a more open and tolerant world.

Despite what the mainstream media may say about them, safe-spaces are a source of evolution for an increasingly tolerant world and SU, in addition to other campuses that stay true to the original intent of the program, are better off for having them.

*Photo Caption: The infamous Safe Space logo that can be found on professors' doors and other locations on campus.*

## S-Town: Newest take on a southern gothic tale

By RILEY FANNING  
Staff Writer

A new podcast entitled "S-Town" unravels the unsettling mysteries of a small town in rural Alabama and its quirky inhabitants. Created by Brian Reed, the intriguing series investigates much—a possible murder, a corrupt county and the characters themselves.

The seven-part series all began with an email to Brian Reed from an extraordinarily eccentric man named John B. Macklemore. He believed that in his small hometown of Woodstock, located in largely unknown Bibb County, Alabama, there had been a murder that was covered up. Brian and John joined up to investigate, and from there the podcast was born.

"S-Town" provides narration from Brian and recordings of John. Beneath Macklemore's thick, rolling Alabama accent is an astoundingly brilliant man, and he is the jewel of the show. He is an antiquarian horologist (antique clock repairer) with a biting sense of humor and is the shining jewel of the series. Listening to his ramblings and learning more about him is one of the most intensely interesting parts of the podcast.

"S-Town's" intrigue and southern, gothic charm gives off a feeling similar to the novel "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil." Each episode is around an hour long, and the narrative twists and turns are fascinating. From murder, to family relations, to the small town and its inhabitants, depression and societal issues, this podcast touches on a broad spectrum.

SEE S-TOWN PAGE 5

## Kendrick Lamar: Four for four

By DREW LACOUTURE  
Editorial Editor

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## Space movies: Where do we go from here?

By JACKIE BONOLA  
Staff Writer

Movies that explore the stars beyond Earth are becoming increasingly more popular each decade and the bar is constantly being raised for what these film should be in terms of scope and quality. There are many factors that have heightened these expectations and caused film makers to be so drawn to creating these bold adventures.

As technology is improving, there are more and more space related films being released by different studios. For the past five years, there has been one huge space movie that towers above many other films. These films do well at the box office and receive critical acclaim more often than not. Infamous directors like Christopher Nolan, Ridley Scott and Alfonso Cuarón are all known for their major contributions to this small but impactful type of film.

There are several plausible reasons why these directors are interested in setting their film in the dark reaches of space. It may be because everyone is a space fanatic now. The space fanatics from the 1970s grew up watching films like "Star Wars" and "2001: A Space Odyssey," which were produced with limited technology in comparison to the technology we have now. Filmmakers desire to create even more realistic, more captivating and more mind-bending space films. Who would not want to make their own "Star Wars" movie?

Another cause for the increase in space films is money, a powerful tool in Hollywood that has benefitted science fiction movies as of late. Space films can and often do garner millions of dollars at the box office. However, as

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## FOUR

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On one of the most anticipated albums of the year, rap prodigy Kendrick Lamar continues his streak of conscious yet addictive music that solidifies him as one of the best artists working today. With "DAMN.," Lamar nearly entirely ditched the jazz-influenced sounds of "To Pimp a Butterfly" to create an often eerie but trendy project.

Kendrick is an artist that is constantly evolving and is as unpredictable as the weather, with each album of his being different from the next and the tracks within those albums tackling so many topics and musical elements. No one saw the lead single "Humble" coming and the same can be said for many tracks here.

This is especially true for the other major banger, "DNA." Its second half and the transition to it are jarring and almost frightening to some degree—it seems like he has been influenced by the group Death Grips. Through this track, the chilling opener "BLOOD" and "YAH," he addresses Fox News' negative comments on his music and hip-hop music as a whole.

Thankfully, rather than throwing shots at people the entire album (Drake and Big Sean are safe for now), Kendrick once again decides to use his music as self-examination in his relationship with God, his desires, his struggles and his community.

Not only is Kendrick cautious of his actual music, but his content and rapping are still unmatched. His story telling, eclectic voices and flows are so complex that his projects require multiple listens to catch every nuance and detail. "LUST" is lyrically the best track—it briefly addresses the reaction to Donald Trump's presidential victory: "Still and sad, distraught and mad, tell the neighbor 'bout it/Bet they agree, parade the streets with your voice proudly/

Time passin', things change/Revertin' back to our daily programs, stuck in our ways; Lust."

The only track that fits the stereotypical braggadocious hip-hop track is "ELEMENT." and producer Sounwave helps bring out the life in this track and so many others here. Speaking of great production, the track "XXX" with U2 is by far the most shocking cut with numerous beat

be pleasing for DJ's.

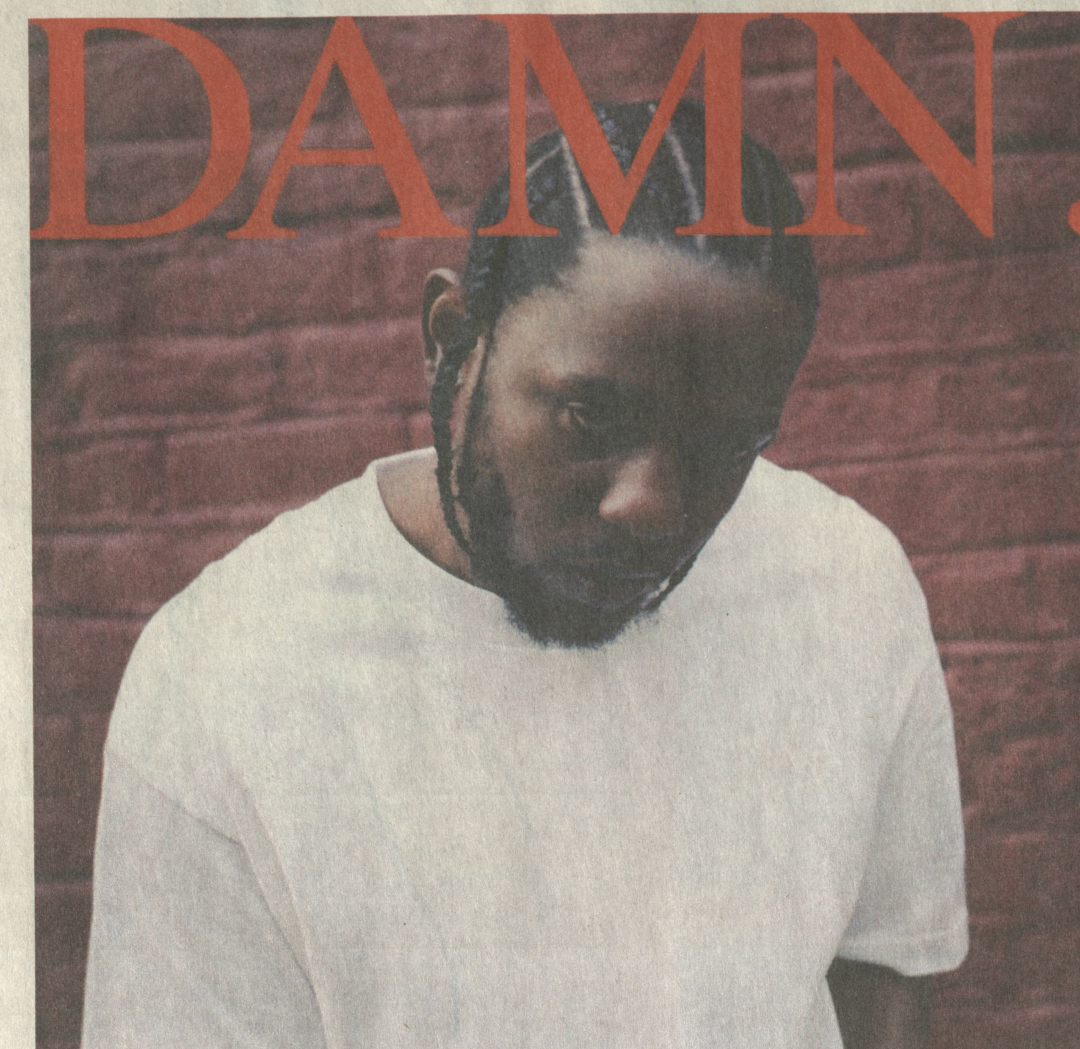
Larger song titles and features does not mean a larger album was created, for "DAMN." lacks the scope and replay value of his two previous albums. This is due to several tracks being slow paced like "YAH," the dazed "PRIDE" and the fantastic "FEAR." These tracks will challenge fans that want to hear more up-tempo tracks like "ELEMENT" and "DNA."

The two most emotive tracks are the insecure "FEEL" and "LOVE." On "FEEL," Lamar lays out his insecurities more bluntly than ever before: "Feel like only me and the music, though/I feel like you're feelin' ain't mutual/I feel like the enemy you should know/Feel like the feelin' of no hope." The ballad "LOVE" is a beautiful tribute for his fiancée Whitney Alford.

Another uplifting track is "GOD," in which Lamar talks about his success, only to be humbled by God. This and the DJ Premier produced "DUCK-WORTH" close out the album brilliantly with the last thirty seconds of the album rewinding back to the opening track "BLOOD." It is super surreal and will be analyzed to death by music critics.

"DAMN." is not Kendrick Lamar's best project, but is his fourth great album that is guaranteed to make multiple year-end

Genius.com image



Kendrick Lamar's fourth studio album "DAMN."

switches, blaring sirens and Lamar breaking into a 21 Savage-like flow. The bleak track is one of many moments in which Lamar and his producers astonish on all levels.

It will be interesting to see how well "LOYALTY" will perform on radio and streaming based on the Rihanna feature alone. While it's a great track with a glitchy, distorted instrumental, her vocals could have been done by a female singer and even Lamar's monotone delivery might not

lists. His versatility, awareness and craft persevere, which pleases music fans young and old around the world. With only a couple of dud tracks and too many progressions to count, Kendrick is pushing the limits of what a mainstream hip-hop album can be. If he keeps this up, he will be considered the greatest rapper of all time.

The Flyer gives "DAMN." an 8/10.

## SPACE

Continued from Page 3

the number and quality of these films increases, so do the critics' and fans' expectations of those films. The audience will not be fooled by producers intending to make a box office hit out of a space film. They have to work harder than that with new stories, new scientific possibilities and great special effects.

Box office hits like 2013's Gravity with a budget of \$100 million grossed 723.2 million dollars and from

there people will constantly want more.

A challenge that directors face is the difficult task of impressing the generation of space nerds from the 1970s and the ten-year-old kids that are just learning about space. It is hard to balance that sense of awe along with maintaining a compelling narrative. Space films are only impressive if executed properly, for the story has to be a 10/10, the actors have to make it

2013	• Gravity: Alfonso Cuarón, budget: \$100 million box office: \$723.2 million
2014	• Interstellar: Christopher Nolan, budget: \$165 million box office: \$675 million
2015	• The Martian: Ridley Scott, budget: \$108 million box office: \$630.2 million
2016	• Arrival: Denis Villeneuve, budget: \$47 million box office: \$198 million
2017	• Life: Daniel Espinosa, budget: \$58 million box office: \$63.6 million

boxoffice mojo.com image

all seem believable and the aliens cannot look cliché.

Over the last decade, we have been introduced to the many possibilities that space can bring us as well as the fears that come from being away from earth. In the years to come, the au-

diences will only become more skilled at differentiating amazing space films from mediocre space movies. Also, our knowledge and understanding about space will broaden and these movies must keep up with these discoveries.

It will be interesting to see if directors and studios run out of ideas, if audiences will grow tired or if space movies will fall off altogether.

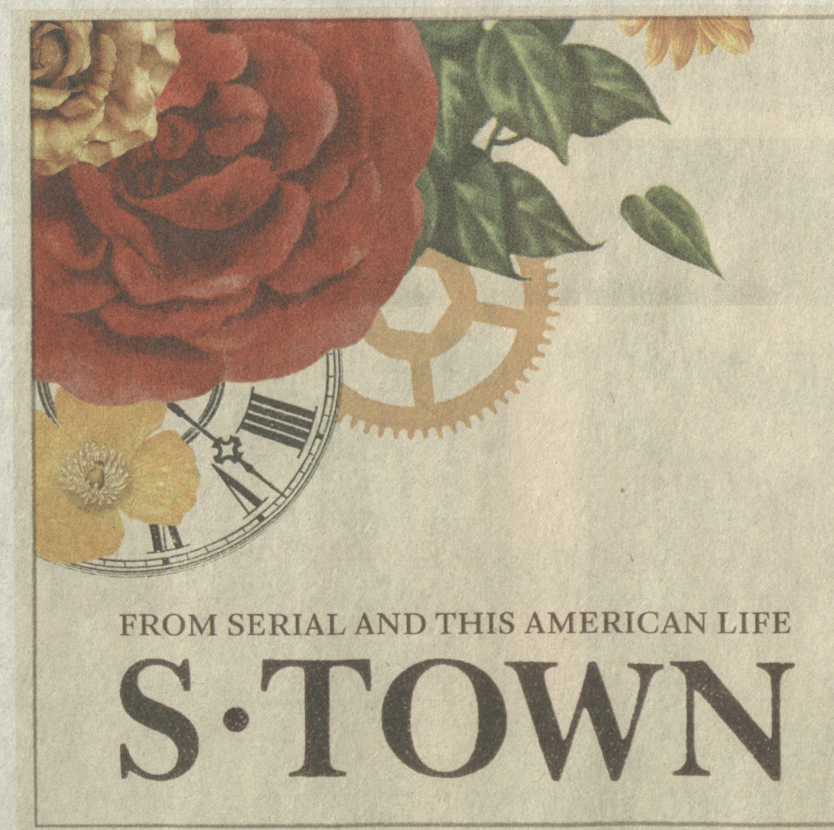
## S-TOWN

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This diverse area of exploration reflects the complicated inner workings of the focus of the podcast, John, and his ideas about his hometown and the world at large.

Within each episode, things get more personal as Reed digs deeper and deeper into the lives of the people, the town and the secrets they all hold. The lush, descriptive prose and evocative music used turns real events in this small town into an intriguing tale within the podcast. Problems arise, however, within this intense scrutiny of people.

At times, the severe detail with which Reed goes into the life of those residing within Bibb County feels almost



too personal. It becomes uncomfortable to hear the intimate details of their thoughts and actions, although they can be exceedingly interesting. It is as if the listener is a fly on the wall, hearing things they are not actually present for and should not know. In some ways the podcast feels biographical, and at other times it feels overly invasive.

While there are some problems with "S-Town," it allows for the rare opportunity to see life from a new perspective, and examines the curious relations within a forgotten American town with mystery and humor.

The Flyer gives S-Town an 8/10.

The logo for "S-Town." Stitcher.com image





Franny Clark photo

## SENIOR ART DISPLAYS IN UNIVERSITY GALLERY

By THERESA TUMMINELLO

Staff Writer

The 56th bi-annual Senior Art Exhibition, "Transcendence," opened on Tuesday, April 4. Salisbury University's graduating art students have their work on display in the Fulton Hall art gallery.

Senior students worked together to plan and orchestrate two different shows. The Fine Arts show is open now until Saturday, April 22 and the Graphic Design show runs from May 1 to May 20. Each show has an awards reception where artists present their portfolios and interact with others in the industry.

Using their specific track, each student chose an overall theme for their work. Elizabeth Kauffman, professor of the Senior Exhibition course, notes that this show is looked forward to every year and is always changing with the different skills and techniques of each graduating class.

At this time, pieces in the gallery range between photographs, drawings, paintings, sculptures, mixed media and more. Students display their

best work encompassing themes close to their heart, including photographs of nature, sculptures of animals, self-portraits, mystical creatures and character drawings.

Rachel Price, majoring in fine arts with a concentration in glass, created a series of three photographs that used steel, iron and glass on female bodies to depict body dysmorphia. Throughout her work, she wants to bring awareness to mental illnesses and show support to those who may be struggling with body image.

"I feel as though body dysmorphia is not as well-known and often overlooked, and it is not always tied with eating disorders—it can lead to them," Price said. "I wanted my photographs to show the impossible beauty standards set by the media and how this leaves an unrealistic impression on girls at a very young age."

With the help of Rise Up Coffee on campus, Katherine Mellos, majoring in fine arts with a concentration

in photography, used her love of coffee to create a series of photographs showing the process of producing coffee from start to finish. She shows the steps in coffee making by capturing moments of movement from the grinding of coffee beans to the pouring, serving and drinking of the beverage itself.

Another student, Chris Foreman, majoring in fine arts with a concentration in glass, created characters frozen in time influenced by pop art. Fusing together glass and steel, his work includes four figures on display in the gallery.

These are just a few of the many pieces featured in the "Transcendence" show. Students can stop by before April 22 to see these creative pieces for themselves, and visit May 1 through May 22 to see the Graphic Design show. The exhibit is housed in Fulton Hall 109 and is free to the public. The schedule can be found on the University's website.

Franny Clark photos



## Salisbury Restaurant Week launch party recap

By ALEXIS GRAMATES

Staff Writer

Salisbury Chamber of Commerce held their second annual restaurant launch party on April 6 at Headquarters Live to kick off the start of SBY Restaurant Week.

The chamber decided to start hosting this event to market the businesses that are participating in SBY Restaurant Week. Nine restaurants sampled food at the event, which included Roadie Joe's, EVO and Specific Gravity.

"We planned it to give restaurants a better opportunity to get their name out there...it is just great free marketing material for local restaurants," Lauren Alfes, director of events at the chamber of commerce, said.

Not only were restaurants there sampling their food, but raffles also kept participants anticipating if they won a gift card to their favorite local

SEE RESTAURANT PAGE 7

## Reach Out Editions helps sexual assault victims

By Haley Dick

Staff Writer

According to RAINN—the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network—an American is sexually assaulted every 98 seconds.

Sexual assault is a widespread issue that cannot be narrowed to just one month of focus. However, April is nationally known as Sexual Assault Awareness month, which was designed for victims of sexual assault to know that they are not alone, and that the hardships they have endured are being addressed.

RAINN states that "ages 12-34 are the highest risk years for rape and sexual assault." Look around the room. College students generally fall in this age range, and many students

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## SU Lighthouse Literary Guild offers community to local writers

By SAMUEL STEVENS

Editor-in-Chief

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## LIGHTHOUSE

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Salisbury University's Center for Extended and Lifelong Learning (CELL) started creative writing classes this month through their Lighthouse Literary Guild program. The courses run for three weeks this month.

CELL offers three classes taught by SU faculty and area residents, each with a different theme and focus, a press release from SU reported.

Mindie Burgoyne, a travel writer and photographer featured in The Washington Post and CBS News, teaches "Travel Writing: Sharing Your Journey." The class shows students how to find subjects and hone them for compelling travel narratives. Burgoyne is also a past president of the Eastern Shore Writer Association.

The class entitled "Using Journalism as a Springboard to Creative Writing" gives aspiring writers a way of starting the creative process, taught by long time creative writing instructor Shannon Hinman.

"Getting Real, Close to Home" helps participants use life experiences to guide their writing. Nancy Mitchell, a professor in SU's environmental studies department and a poet, teaches the course. "Close to Home" has a poetry concentration, but is open to any genre.

CELL classes are open to all ages, but they typically draw senior citizens. Mitchell liked this about the courses, since the participants offer a different perspective from college creative writing students. "They have a very rich experience to draw from," Mitchell said.

Typically, the CELL students work on an assignment, email it to their in-

structor and then workshop it with their peers at the next class. After the writers revise their work, they have a portfolio at the end of the six-week course.

In addition to classroom activity, the writers do different exercises to guide their creative process, such as sitting alone and finding their place to write. "People are afraid of that silence," Mitchell said.

In Mitchell's course, she likes to break down preconceived notions about writing in her class. She said that students sometimes bring the idea that writing is "an elitist activity," but through the course, she tells students to embrace their own voice.

While the courses are more open-ended and the structure is designed to fit the needs of the class, some of the CELL participants prefer a stricter, syllabus driven course.

The Lighthouse Literary Guild courses provide a community for the writers. Mitchell said, "Writing is a real solitary practice. You really need a community of writers so you don't feel like... 'am I talking to myself?'"

The goal of Lighthouse Literary Guild is "to be the destination on the Eastern Shore for both local and vacationing writers," their website says. They also plan to promote the works of writers in Salisbury and the region through readings.

The CELL programs try to create a link between SU and the city of Salisbury. "Our overall goal is to build community," Mitchell said. "To even get students involved—that would be good."

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## REACH OUT

Continued from Page 6

struggle to take the initiative to get the help and support they need.

Captivation, a small company consisting of four partners, has designed an application that allows sexual assault victims on high school and college campuses, as well as their loved ones, get the help and support they need at their fingertips. The brains behind the operation are Jack Zandi, Billy Sadik-Khan, Racquel Giner and Zach Csillag.

The application, known as Reach Out Editions, compiles information that was found buried under various PDFs and student handbooks on how to seek help following an assault, and brings it to the hands of the user. The administrators of the campuses are provided information from the team on how to update the information on their personal displays to best benefit the student users.

Jack Zandi, contributor to the data maintenance of Reach Out Editions and cofounder of Captivation, and his colleagues are high school friends who regrouped after college and brought their own beliefs and educations to the table to collaborate to create an app to aid victims of sexual assault in any way possible.

"We felt like creating an app would be unique and a lot of fun to do from an entrepreneurial standpoint," Zandi said. "If we could help a neglected part of the population, then we felt it was a win-win on a massive scale for us."

Their inspiration for creating the app stemmed from being overall civically minded, but ultimately sparked

when media attention started to focus on sexual assault more frequently and in depth. After doing some research on how to seek help and develop a plan of action, the creators noticed how difficult it was to locate support services, giving them the idea to make a change.

"We want to help people that want to help themselves and their friends, and if we can give them an avenue that is not only easy, but is useful, then we feel like we are creating not just a service, but a function for people of all backgrounds to find vital information in their most trying time," Zandi shared.

The app itself is catered specifically to whichever college or university a student attends, so student victims simply must type the name of the university into the organization slot and personalized information will be generated.

Some of the categories include campus resources, which indicates to students exactly where to go to seek immediate help, reporting options in which students can learn the different ways to handle the assault and various advocacy and educational links that can take the matter of sexual assault farther than one incident.

The application serves roughly 2600 two- and four-year colleges, as well as various high schools who felt it necessary to have the resource available to their students. It is free to download, and all activity within the app remains completely anonymous.

Photo Caption: The main screen on Reach Out Editions app catered to students of Salisbury University.



## RESTAURANT

Continued from Page 6

restaurant. Alex and Shiloh provided entertainment with live acoustic music of all genres.

Rachael Reiter, a Salisbury resident, attended the event for the first time in hopes of getting a preview of where she wanted to go during the week.

"I have never participated in Restaurant Week—I am very interested to see where I want to go," Reiter said. "I am most excited to go to Sushi De Kanpai".

SBY Restaurant Week continued

through April 16, and local restaurants offered two to three courses and fixed priced menus. This was also a time for chefs to showcase their best dishes and experiment with new items.

Every spring, SBY Restaurant Week occurs in the hopes of attracting new and old customers to participate. If you were not able to experience it this year, there is always next year!

Salisbury Restaurant Week image



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# THE FLYER SPORTS



## BERKMAN CAREER WIN MARK JUST A STEP TOWARDS GREATER GOAL

By **CHRIS MACKOWIAK**  
*Sports Editor*

SU men's lacrosse senior face-off specialist Duncan Campbell scoops up a groundball and rushes toward York's side of the field. The senior fakes a pass and tips a shot into the lower frame of the goal. 1-0 Gulls. Last Wednesday marked one of the most highly anticipated matches of 2017. No. 1 Salisbury hosted No. 3 York (Pa.) in the considered Capital Athletic Conference (CAC) regular season title game.

From Campbell's opening goal—his first of the season—the Sea Gulls' offense showcased their talents in front of a national audience to win 17-10 and claim home-field advantage in the upcoming conference tournament.

The Sea Gulls are soaring into the CAC Semifinals on Saturday with a 15-1 overall record. However, it was one win recently that rose above them all for this team, one step in

the greater road to a second-straight National Championship.

Back on March 29 up Route 13 at Wesley College, SU men's lacrosse head coach Jim Berkman struck gold, and some maroon too, with career win No. 500 in a 26-4 victory. With 11 National Championships, 19 conference titles and 28 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) appearances all under his belt, this particular victory has been

a long time coming for the historic head coach.

"All the work he's put in over the years—it shows year after year, and I'm glad that I could be a part of it," SU senior goalkeeper Colin Reymann said.

In all of those accolades, coach Berkman sees the hard work that so many players and coaches have put in alongside him on and off the field.

SEE BERKMAN PAGE 12

## Under the Feathers: Salisbury WLAX's Gabbi Nieves



Salisbury University Athletics photo

By **CHRIS MACKOWIAK**  
*Sports Editor*

No. 6 Gabbi Nieves

Senior midfielder for Salisbury women's lacrosse

Hometown: Centreville, Va.

**What are your majors/minors and career aspirations?**

"Communications major with a marketing minor. My major focus is on journalism and PR, so I hope to do something with that in my future. I love to write, so hopefully my future employer needs a writer!"

SEE NIEVES PAGE 11

## From weak link to cornerstone: Sea Gulls' pitching staff

By **CHASE GORSKI**  
*Staff Writer*

When the Salisbury baseball team's 2016 playoff run was cut short following a loss to Penn State Berks in the Mid-Atlantic Regional, it left a bitter taste in the mouths of all the would-be returners.

The dominant offense that was known throughout last season for averaging almost 10 runs per game had hit a cold streak at the worst time, scraping across just eight runs in three regional matchups. The lack of production, combined with continued struggles on the mound, gave SU an early exit from the NCAA tournament and a long offseason to ponder what could have been.

But the Sea Gulls had their work

cut out for them preparing for their 2017 campaign. It was no question that their formidable offense would return strong.

All eyes would be on the pitching staff after recording the second-worst ERA in the Capital Athletic Conference (CAC) at 6.50 and struggling for the majority of the season. Junior right-hander Connor Reeves, a go-to reliever for the Sea Gulls, was a part of the returning bullpen that knew they needed to improve.

"We needed a little bit of everything for this year," Reeves said. "We really weren't that strong in relief or starting."

SEE PITCHING PAGE 11

## Spring playoff update: CAC Tournament scenarios

By **ZACH GILLELAND**  
*Staff Writer*

With the Capital Athletic Conference (CAC) regular season coming to a close, playoff season is just around the corner.

Below, we break down each team's current playoff position, how the team has played throughout the season and who they may potentially play in their prospective tournaments.

**Softball:** Currently sitting third in the CAC standings, the Sea Gulls will head to Christopher Newport for the five-team tournament. A date in the first round with the No. 2 seed Frostburg State is what they look forward to on Thursday.

An up-and-down season throughout, Salisbury has found trouble finding consistent pitching, with a team ERA above four runs a game, well north of its 1.39 mark a season ago. The offense has been reliable throughout the season, leading the CAC in homeruns

and second in runs scored.

If the team can make it through to face one of the top two teams in the tournament, Frostburg or CNU, then they have a decent chance to pull out a victory. The Sea Gulls split the season series against both teams earlier in the season.

Playing on the road is another factor for SU. The team has played very little on the road this season, playing at Sea Gull Softball Stadium 25 times this year.

Although the team has not seen the success it has in previous years, things should be interesting come playoff time.

**Baseball:** After traveling to Frostburg the last two seasons, the Sea Gulls will get their turn to host the CAC Tournament after defeating

CNU 7-2 on Wednesday. Following a difficult start to the season against tough out-of-conference competition, the maroon and gold has hit their stride as of late, minus a close loss to No. 18 John's Hopkins in extra innings.

A close fight for the remaining four playoff spots ended Saturday with the No. 1 seeded Sea Gulls set to host No. 6 Mary Washington in the opening round on Tuesday.

Armed with the CAC's second-best pitching staff by ERA, the SU rotation has dominated opponents as of late. Anchored by three of the top five leaders in ERA in the conference in Jeff Oster, Pete Grasso and Connor Reeves, the Sea Gulls may have the edge come tournament time.

SEE UPDATE PAGE 12

SPORTS

## NIEVES

Continued from Page 10

**What made you want to play women's lacrosse at, or simply come to, Salisbury?**

"I always knew I wanted to play lacrosse in college, but I was unsure of where to go until my senior year. I was looking at some small Division I schools, but Salisbury really caught my attention because of their dominance in Division III. Not to mention my brother went here and played lacrosse, so that first introduced me to the school and women's team."

**What has been your favorite moment as part of SU women's lacrosse while here at Salisbury, and why?**

"My favorite moment on the women's team here at Salisbury would definitely be winning the National Championship my freshman year [in 2014]. Just getting to the Final Four and being a part of something so special was amazing. Being a freshman and having the opportunity to play in that national championship game was also amazing. We've had good seasons since then; however, [we] haven't ended up where we want to be. We're very hopeful that this year is the year that we can get another ring."

**What do you enjoy about playing middle, and what do you believe you bring to the team with your abilities?**

"What I love most about being a middle is being able to make an impact on both ends of the field. Defense and offense are two totally different aspects of the game. However, I love being able to play both and help our team get the job done on both ends. With that being said, I think being able to play two positions on the field brings a lot to the table—myself and the rest of the middies love our position, so that passion really shows when we get out on the field."

## PITCHING

Continued from Page 10

With a handful of returners, Salisbury was poised to have a comeback year on the mound, especially behind two strong returning seniors in Pete Grasso and Jeff Oster. Both Oster and Grasso were two of the top Sea Gull starters last season, but saw room for improvement in endurance of the starting pitchers.

"We would always start off five innings strong," Oster said. "But then, in the late innings, giving up two or three runs that would let teams back in the game."

Using the motivation from the end of last season, the pitchers went to work preparing for the upcoming season. SU head coach Troy Brohawn started the year issuing a challenge to his staff, telling his pitchers they needed to be better this year if the team was going to succeed.

In the beginning of the season, it was a new year, but the same Gulls, with the pitching staff showing similar flaws from the previous season in their first seven games, allowing double-digit runs to opponents in five of those seven. Salisbury began the year with an underwhelming 7.43 ERA and a 3-4 record.

The Sea Gulls were not going to let this be the story of their season again. Following a four-game stretch of losses in mid-February, the pitching staff met to address the recent struggles and to figure out their next steps.

"We didn't want to be the weak part of the team," Grasso said. "We had a meeting after those games, and we really came together and said 'we don't want to be the weak link of the team.'"

Fast forward to the middle of April, and the Sea Gulls stand at the top of the CAC standings with a 24-8 record. While the offense has produced this year by averaging over eight runs per game, it is the once shaky pitching staff that has formed into the backbone of the squad.

Salisbury holds the second-lowest ERA in the CAC as a team at 3.31 with multiple pitchers recording sub-3.00 ERAs as well. The statistical improvements from last season are numerous, from a better team ERA to lowering opponents' batting average from over .300 last season to just .235 this year.

"With three seniors leading the staff this year, experience plays a big role," coach Brohawn said. "We had a young staff last year and they've learned from it; I think as a staff in general we are more aggressive this year."

Those three seniors—Micah Wells, Oster and Grasso—have certainly stepped up to coach Brohawn's challenge and are not taking anything for granted in their final year.

"All the alumni always say 'don't regret anything for your final season,' so coming into my last year I never wanted to regret something," Oster said. "It's my last season and I don't want to leave anything out there; I think it's the same for [Pete] and [Micah]."

Oster has been the top starter that coach Brohawn has turned to so far this season, getting the nod nine times and recording a 5-0 record and posting the fifth-best individual ERA in the CAC at 2.91 while also holding opposing batters to an average of .204.

Grasso, a two-way athlete for

THE FLYER

11



After a disappointing loss at No. 7 York (Pa.), the Sea Gulls will look to rebound in the CAC Semifinals.  
Hannah Wichowski photo

**April 8 was Senior Day for you and some of your teammates. What was going through your mind during that moment, and what do you feel makes your senior class so unique/special?**

"The morning of senior day I woke up and of course it hit me and I was sad. Not because the season is anywhere close to over yet, but because the fact that I'm about to graduate in two short months is unreal. I remember every senior day from the grades above me, thinking, 'it'll be a long time before that's my senior day.' But I was so wrong. These past four years flew by and all of us seniors kept saying how he couldn't believe it was our senior day."

"I think our senior class is so unique and special because we're close on and off the field. We've been together since freshman year in the dorms and since then all of our friendships have grown immensely."

**What is your favorite part of Salisbury University Athletics or your team-environment here at SU?**

"My favorite part of SU Athletics is mainly the atmosphere. Everyone on the different sports teams are friends for that reason and with that,

everyone on my team are all friends on and off the field. We have great team chemistry and that comes from being close off the field."

**What are your hobbies and interests off the field?**

"Some of my hobbies and interests off the field would definitely be just hanging out with my friends and family, exercising whenever I have free time and eating. A lot."

**Where is your favorite place to go for a meal or snack on- or off-campus? Favorite food?**

"Favorite place to go for a meal would hands down be Chipotle. If not Chipotle, I'll go to East Moon, Ruby Tuesday's, Panera Bread...basically anywhere. I love Hungry Minds on campus as well as Chick-Fil-A. Favorite food is mac 'n cheese."

**What music do you listen to in order to get ready for game-time, or what do you like to generally listen to?**

"In order to get ready for a game, I listen to major pump-up music. Hip hop, pop...and lots of rap."

needed, and each member has a few ideas on why this year is the one where everything has fallen into place.

Some attribute it to the closeness of each of the guys on the team, stating that the atmosphere in the pitching staff has improved greatly. Others feel it is the competitive nature teamed with the snowball effect, where the young pitchers see the seniors performing at peak levels and they want to out-do them.

No matter the reason, this is a different effect of that meeting called back in February, and now the pitching staff has turned themselves into the strongest part of this Sea Gull team. With the post-season right around the corner, the timing could not be better and, from the looks of it, the best is yet to come.

"Our confidence is through the roof—we're going to run through [CACs]," Grasso said.

With a mentality like that, the enthusiasm becomes contagious, and it is clear to see that everyone on the pitching staff is on the same page.

"With our staff that we have and our starters, it's probably the top in the nation and we are going to go out there and give our team the best chance to win," Oster said. "We're looking to run through the CAC, going through the Regionals and hopefully winning some games in the World Series."

Salisbury, has been as dominant as ever on the mound this season and holds a CAC-best 1.38 ERA throughout his 11 appearances with a 5-0 record as well.

"I've been pitching more to contact this year, last year I would get deeper in counts and it would be 3-2 every batter I faced," Grasso said. "Now I attack early and let them hit it and our defense makes the plays."

Other than the Sea Gull standouts, the entire pitching staff has bought into the new aggressive mentality, relying on their mental toughness to help them succeed. The mentality of each SU pitcher has played a big role in the improvements from last year, as well as their work ethic.

"I've been here for five years now, and this is the hardest working staff I've been around," Oster said. "We work hard every single day in practice and it's been showing."

With the CAC tournament coming up soon, Salisbury seems to be getting hot at just the right time on the mound, with starters putting forth countless quality starts and relievers slamming the door when they enter the late innings.

Coach Brohawn knows exactly who he will rely on down the home stretch of the season. Aside from their top performers, Sea Gull fans can expect to see continued success from bullpen guys such as juniors Ryan Gough, Andrew Kramer and Logan Manz.

"We'll probably go with a six- or seven-man staff through the tournament and role with it through that," Brohawn said. "We're going to rely on [Wells, Oster and Grasso] to continue to set the tone early and hopefully the guys behind them can follow their lead."

The dominant pitching staff that has formed this season for Salisbury has been exactly what the program has



## BERKMAN

Continued from Page 10

"It's just a tribute to all the players and coaches that have been here over the last 29 years and how hard they've worked to make this all possible," coach Berkman said. "It's something to honor their efforts and success over the last 29 years. I just happen to be the guy that's running the ship."

"It's definitely a very special moment for him, and he's humble about it the whole time. All the credit goes out to him in his 20-plus seasons in lacrosse and at Salisbury," SU senior attacker Carson Kalama said.

It is the humbling quality that may provide the greatest foundation for such a successful men's lacrosse program. It seems fitting that this honor comes after a 2016 season that saw much adversity towards the start of NCAA Tournament play. In 2017, coach Berkman also faced a key mentor in his life: Gettysburg head coach Hank Janczyk, who has accumulated over 420 wins in his long career.

All but one season of coaching—at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Potsdam—have been here at Salisbury for coach Berkman. Since then, the former All-American midfielder at St. Lawrence has capitalized on his time at Salisbury, using his numerous experiences at different stops along the way.

As one of his favorite moments, coach Berkman fondly remembers his first title at Salisbury, facing Hobart College in 1994. One that matches that memory is the 2008 National Title that he had the opportunity to win with his son Kylor, a three-time National Midfielder of the Year.

"He was a guy that made a big impact to our program. He didn't go Division I, and he stayed here," coach Berkman said. "He won a couple championships and played in three championship games."

The maroon and gold continues to run very deep in the Berkman family. His daughter Keli was a member of the 2010 Salisbury women's lacrosse team that won a National Title under current head coach Jim Nestor.

Berkman's Salisbury imprint stretches beyond Sea Gull Stadium into the SU Soccer Complex, leading the SU women's soccer program for seven seasons and to two CAC Championships.

For the many players that have played under Berkman and walked the tunnel walk, they feel an impact from their head coach, making them both better players and better people. The culture that Berkman has developed trickles even to the players today.

"I feel like there's role models to look up to in every class, even some of the younger guys on our team you can look up to at times," Reymann said. "We just have a great culture." At the core, it is the hard-work ethic that has created the foundation for many of Berkman's players.

"He's taught us many things that relate to lacrosse, but importantly, [about] being a better man. On and off the field, I think one of the biggest lessons that he's taught me is that effort equals outcome," Kalama said.

Within the future playoff games, there may lie yet another milestone for the head coach: 500 wins just at Salisbury University. It is a milestone that the seniors are keeping an eye on, and it may align with an early round of the NCAA Tournament.

At the end of the day for Berkman and his Sea Gulls, the win at Wesley is just that—a win on the road to greater prizes: a CAC Championship and then potentially a trip to Boston in late May.

"Anything that results in us doing our jobs on a day-to-day basis is just icing on the cake," coach Berkman said.

While this men's lacrosse program enjoyed a brief celebration on a Wednesday night in March, their hunger grows for greater rewards from the top work ethic that coach Berkman teaches his players each and every day.

## UPDATE

Continued from Page 10

The maroon and gold has a ton of momentum heading into the CAC Tournament, and in front of a home crowd, the quest for a second consecutive conference crown begins.

**Women's Lacrosse:** Following a disappointing 10-6 loss on Wednesday night, the road for a fifteenth consecutive CAC Championship will go through York as the Spartans clinched the No. 1 seed in the conference tournament.

Receiving the No. 2 seed following a 7-1 conference record, all signs point to Salisbury hosting the three-seeded Mary Washington Eagles in the semifinals on Saturday. The Sea Gulls had difficulty putting away the Eagles in Fredericksburg, Va. earlier this season, scraping out a 9-7 win on March 18.

As Salisbury averages over 12 goals per game, offense is not a problem for the Sea Gulls. The battle at the "X" may be the key, as the team is 1-4 when they have six or fewer draw controls in a game and 10-0 when they have seven or more draw controls.

The loss to York bodes an important statistic for SU. Salisbury is currently 4-4 on the season on the road, and with a possible matchup in the tournament final against the Spartans being likely, the maroon and gold may have a tough time winning their fifteenth-straight CAC title.

**Men's Lacrosse:** The top-ranked team in the NCAA, the Sea Gulls soared to another CAC regular season title after a dominant 17-10 win over No. 3 York on Wednesday. This was a revenge game for SU as York handed Salisbury its only loss of the season in the CAC Championship game a season ago.

The No. 1 seed in the conference tournament once more, a dominant season has unfolded for the defending National Champions. The Gulls will have a first-round bye as the team awaits the No. 4 vs No. 5 matchup.

If the maroon and gold can get past the semifinal game, a matchup between either Frostburg St. or Mary Washington, then a date with the Spartans may decide the CAC Championship once more.

Whoever will play the Sea Gulls in the conference tournament, they will have to get past a smothering Salisbury offense that averages over 17 goals per game. Along with a prolific attack group, senior goalkeeper Colin Reymann leads the conference with just over six goals allowed per game.

Hoping to regain the CAC crown once more, the Sea Gulls' big season may continue to get bigger.

*SU junior defender Kyle Tucker looks for a pass on transition vs. CNU.  
Hannah Wichrowski photo*



*SU sophomore pitcher Shannon Powell delivers a pitch from the circle.  
Hannah Wichrowski photo*



*SU senior pitcher Jeff Oster finishes his wind-up on the mound.  
Amy Wojtowicz photo*



*SU sophomore middie Ryan Schradler battles for the opening draw control.  
Hannah Wichrowski photo*

